

DRAWINGS ATTACHED

1 319 902

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(54) A HOLDER FOR COUPLING CANS

(71) We, THE METAL BOX COMPANY LIMITED, a Company Incorporated under the laws of Great Britain, of 37, Baker Street, London W1A 1AN, England, do hereby declare the invention for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

10 This invention relates to a holder for coupling two or more cans and it is a main object of the invention so to construct the holder that it can be applied to and caused to grip a collation of cans by a single downward pressure applied to the holder to fold downwards side panels which extend along opposite sides of an elongate central panel arranged to rest on the tops of the cans.

20 According to the invention a holder for coupling two or more cans comprises a member made from paperboard material and includes side panels extending along and arranged to be folded downwards from opposite longer sides of an elongate central panel, and means for engaging opposite sides of each can to be held by the holder, each of said means comprising a transverse slit formed in and extending lengthwise of a side panel and joining a pair of lateral slits extending into the side panel from a longer side of the central panel, and three tongues one of which is a central tongue defined by slits extending into the side panel from the transverse slit and the others of which are each defined by one of the central tongue-defining slits, by a part of the transverse slit, and by a fold line connecting the transverse slit with an end of a central tongue-defining slit remote from the transverse slit, the arrangement being such that on downfolding of the side panels about cans to be coupled

by the holder a chime of each can extends into opposed openings formed in the side panels by downfolding thereof and is engaged on the underside thereof by said tongues.

In order that the invention may be clearly understood an embodiment thereof will now be described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a plan of a holder according to the invention, and

Fig. 2 is a perspective view illustrating a group of cans coupled by the holder.

Referring to the drawing, the holder comprises a member made from paperboard material and includes side panels 1, 2 which extend along and are arranged to be folded downwards from opposite longer sides of an elongate central panel 3. The longer sides are formed, in part by scores or creases 4, 5 about which the side panels are to be downfolded. The holder also includes means for engaging opposite sides of each can 6, Fig. 2, to be held by the holder and each of said means comprises a transverse slit 7 formed in and extending lengthwise of a side panel 1, 2 and which joins a pair of lateral slits 8, 9 extending into the side panel from a longer side of the central panel 3. Said means also includes three tongues one 10 of which is a central tongue defined by slits 11, 12 which extend into a side panel 1, 2 from the transverse slit 7, and the others 13, 14 of which are each defined by one of the central tongue-defining slits 11, 12 by a part of the transverse slit 7, and by a fold line 15 which connects the transverse slit 7 with an end of a central tongue-defining slit 11, 12 remote from the transverse slit 7.

In the preferred embodiment of the invention as shown in Fig. 1 the opposite transverse slits 7 are slightly curved outwards from the ends of the lateral slits 8, 90

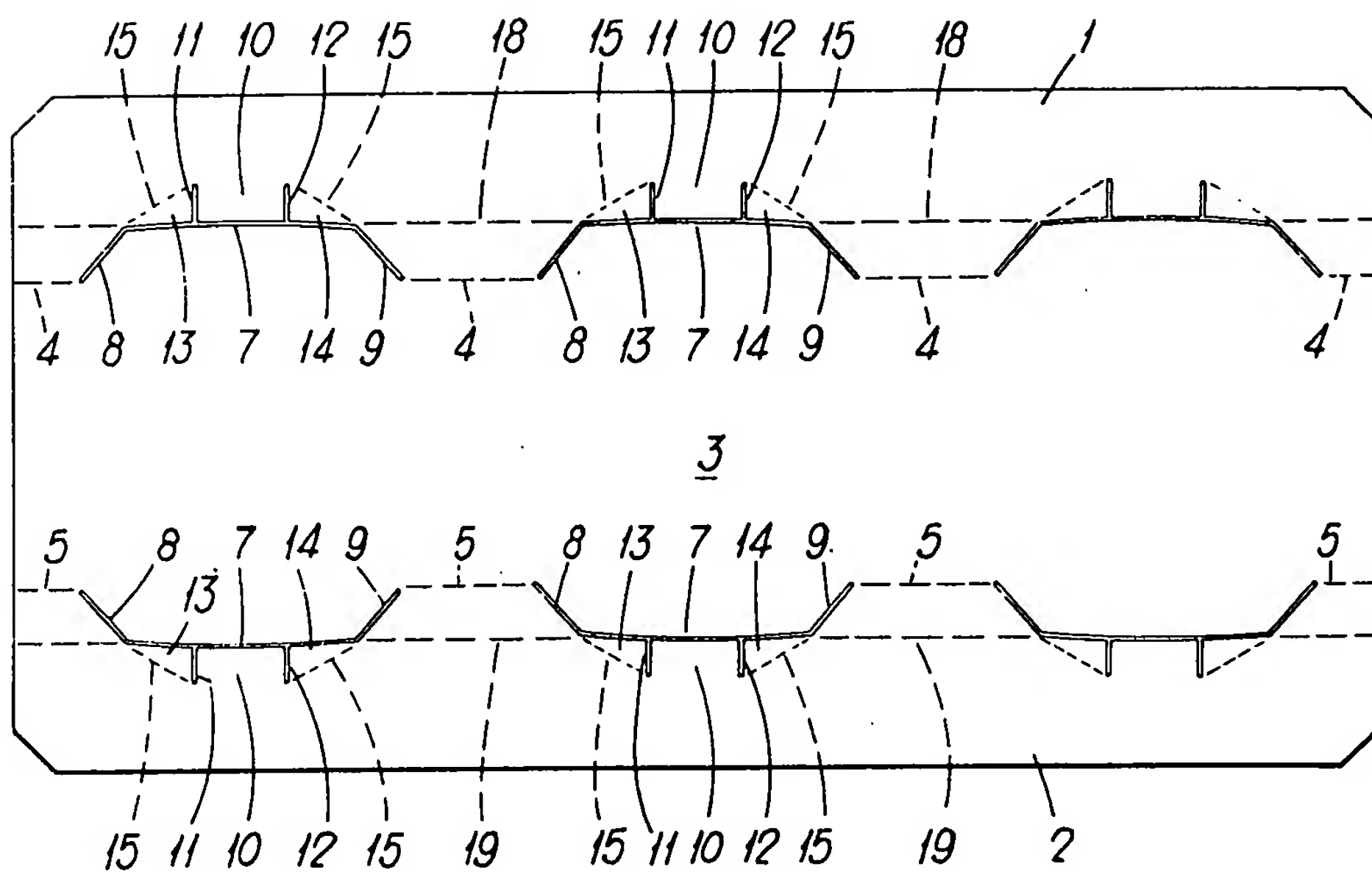


Fig. 1.

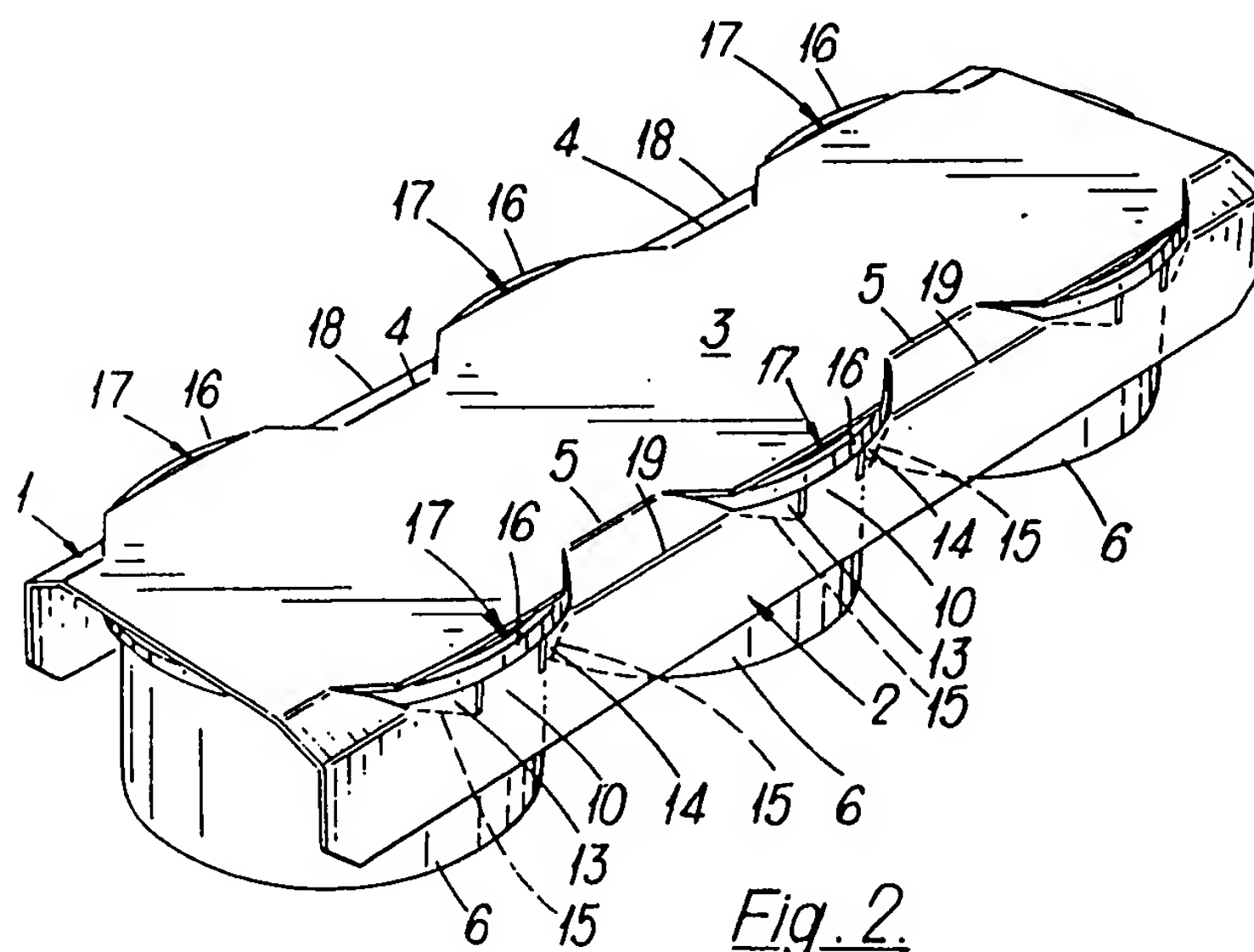


Fig. 2.